

Chapter 1

Introduction

1

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1.0 VIS Sign System

Nearly 90% of all park signs fall into the Visitor Information System (VIS) category. VIS Signs are designed to present information in a consistent, attractive, convenient, and flexible format. Such information may involve pedestrian or bicycle and (low-speed) motorist guidance, regulations, resource protection, instructions and general information, safety warnings, maps, and interpretation. VIS Signs may also be used to identify parks (or park areas, features, or facilities) when more monumental identification signs are not required.

The Visitor Information System is based on a set of hardware components that may be configured in a variety of ways to hold modular sign panels and other accessories. VIS hardware is available in a range of materials to suit local requirements, all selected for vandal resistance, general durability, and low maintenance. Although each sign form is stout, each is designed to be visually unobtrusive and to “go lightly on the land.” Each sign structure can hold a variety of individual information panels, made from a variety of materials including porcelain enamel, fiberglass, cut vinyl on metal, or digitally imaged resin laminates. A mix of materials can be used in the same assembly, each chosen to suit the information it carries.

The modular nature of VIS signs also allows content to be presented in discrete, easily comprehended “eyefuls” consistent with how park visitors are most willing to receive information according to research. This approach is also consistent with the way that those with visual difficulties prefer to view text and visual materials. Additionally, this modular approach enables information panels (and sign hardware) to be used and then easily taken apart and reassembled for service at other times or locations.

The VIS Standards include an extensive set of templates, instructions, and examples to enable park staffs to develop most of the VIS signs they need. An array of standard signs in the VIS series will also be available. These signs may be purchased “off the shelf” or used as models for similar signs. Signage consistency will help ensure that communication with visitors will be more certain, more rapid, and more effective than previously, and that visitor safety, convenience, and enjoyment will be enhanced.

Besides supporting sign panels, VIS hardware is designed to accommodate a number of accessories: bulletin cases, campsite numbering bollards with fee receipt holders, brochure distribution boxes, campground and backcountry registration cabinets, and trash bag distribution boxes for parks that have eliminated the use of trash cans.

1.1 VIS System Overview

VIS signs are designed to provide an attractive and consistent way to present a broad range of messages. The modular system allows posting of regulations, safety warnings, information, interpretation, pedestrian guidance, and other wayfinding information including maps. The hardware is vandal resistant and reusable. Hardware and panels are available in a variety of materials to accommodate local conditions.

VIS Panels



Park Identification



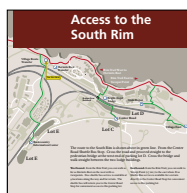
Small Guide



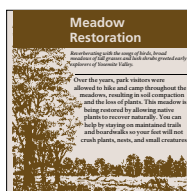
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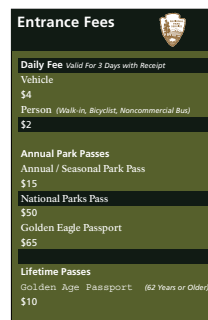
VIS Map



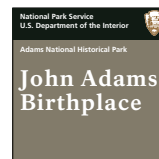
VIS Map



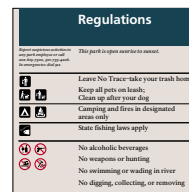
VIS Resource Protection



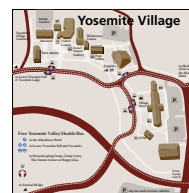
Entrance Fee



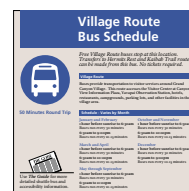
Park Identity



Park Regulatory

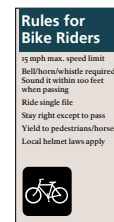


VIS Map



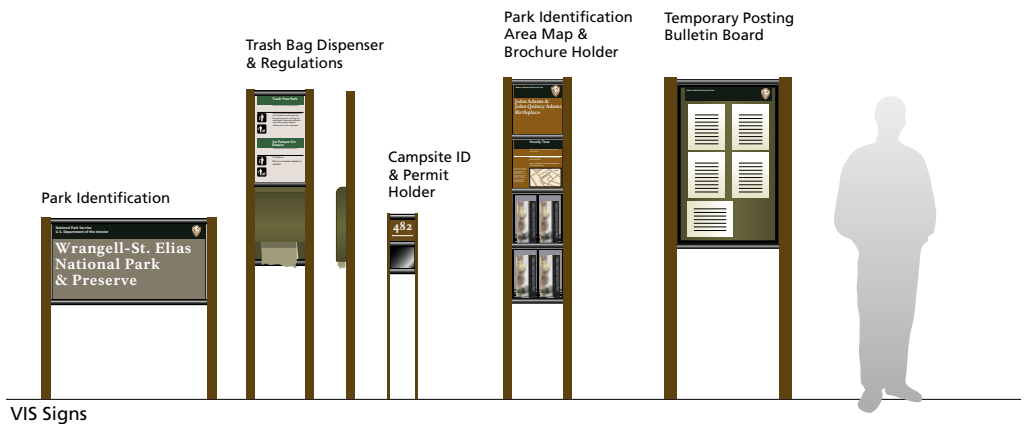
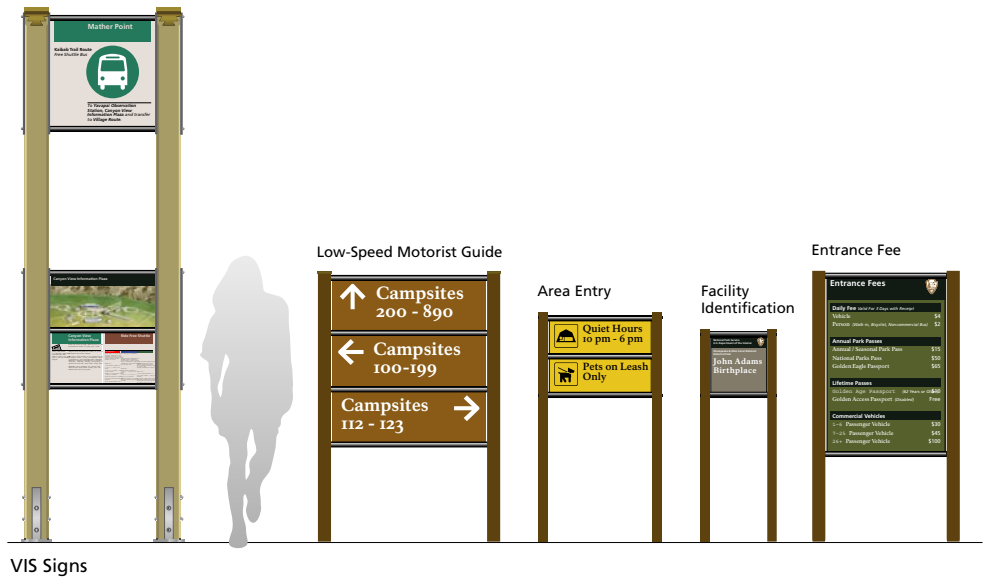
VIS Information

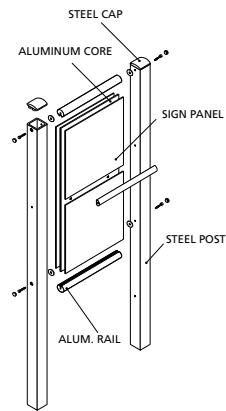
VIS Narrow Profile Panels



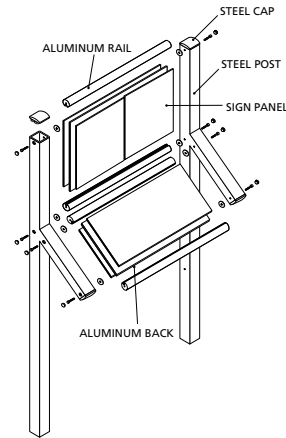


Shuttle Stop & Area Regulations

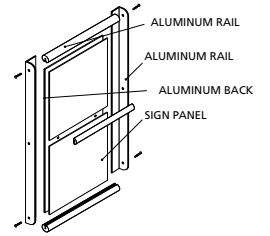




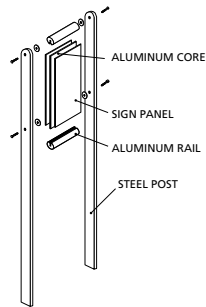
Vertical Assembly



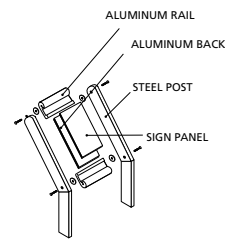
Forward Angle Assembly



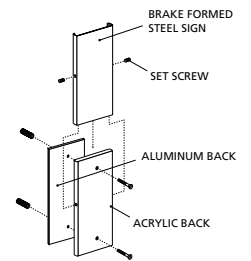
Wall Mount Assembly



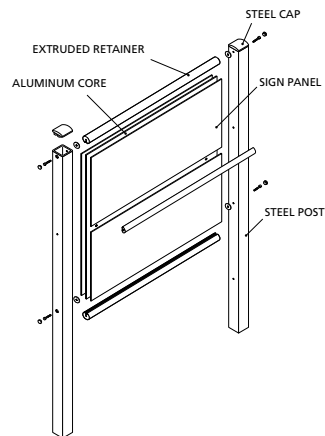
Narrow Profile Assembly



Reverse Angle Assembly
(low to ground)



Wall Mount Assembly
Narrow Profile



Vertical Assembly